

In The Claims:

Claim 1. (Previously Presented) An electrical connector for mounting to a substrate, comprising:

a modular insulative connector housing having first and second end pieces including holes formed therethrough and first and second hold-down tabs, respectively, for mounting said insulative connector housing to a substrate, said first and second end pieces comprising two separate pieces and the first hold-down tab extends laterally from a side of the first end piece and the second hold-down tab extends laterally from a side of the second end piece, wherein the location of the first hold-down tab is staggered relative to the location of the second hold-down tab; and

a plurality of contact pins held in the holes of the insulative connector housing.

Claims 2-29. Cancelled.

Claim 30. (Currently Amended) An electrical connector assembly, comprising:

a male connector comprising a male connector housing and a plurality of male contact pins held in said male connector housing, said male connector housing having first and second staggered mounting extensions for mounting said male connector housing to a first substrate; and

a female connector comprising a female connector housing and a plurality of female contact pins held in said female connector housing, said female connector housing having first and second end pieces having holes formed therethrough for receiving the female contact pins and having first and second staggered mounting extensions, respectively, for mounting said female connector housing to a side of a second substrate, the first and second end pieces

comprising two separate structural pieces, wherein the first mounting extension extends laterally from a side of the first end piece and the second mounting extension extends laterally from a side of the second end piece, and

wherein at least a portion of said male connector is adapted to be received within said female connector such that said male contact pins contact said female contact pins to establish an electrical connection therebetween.

Claims 31-51. Cancelled.

Claim 52. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector according to claim 1, wherein said first and second end pieces are joined together.

Claim 53. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector according to claim 52, wherein said first and second end pieces are joined together using an adhesive bond.

Claim 54. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector according to claim 1, further comprising a center piece having holes formed therethrough, the center piece comprising a separate piece from the first and second end pieces, wherein the first and second end pieces are joined to opposite ends of the center piece.

Claim 55. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector according to claim 54, wherein the first and second end pieces are joined to opposite ends of the center piece using adhesive bonds.

Claim 56. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector according to claim 1, wherein each of the first and second end pieces includes a polarization feature.

Claim 57. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector according to claim 1, wherein said connector housing mounts to a printed circuit board.

Claim 58. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector according to claim 1, wherein said connector housing is an edge connector housing.

Claim 59. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector assembly according to claim 30, wherein said first and second end pieces are joined together.

Claim 60. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector assembly according to claim 59, wherein said first and second end pieces are joined together using an adhesive bond.

Claim 61. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector assembly according to claim 30, wherein said female connector housing further comprises a center piece having holes formed therethrough, the center piece comprising a separate piece from the first and second end pieces, wherein the first and second end pieces are joined to opposite ends of the center piece.

Claim 62. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector assembly according to claim 61, wherein the first and second end pieces are joined to opposite ends of the center piece using adhesive bonds.

Claim 63. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector assembly according to claim 30, wherein each of the first and second end pieces includes a polarization feature.

Claim 64. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector assembly according to claim 30, wherein said female connector housing mounts to a printed circuit board.

Claim 65. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector assembly according to claim 30, wherein said female connector housing is an edge connector housing.